ONSTOT COOPER SHOP AND RESIDENCE

Henry Onstot, cooper, built a two-room house in the spring of 1835. Later he added the frame lean-to. This was Onstot's third home in the village. He built his first home and first cooper shop in the eastern portion of town about 1830, upon his arrival in New Salem. From 1833 the Onstots lived at the Tavern, which they operated after the Rutledges moved to Sandridge.

Onstot erected his second shop while operating the Rutledge Tavern in 1834. A year later he built his residence to the west and lived there until 1840. Abraham Lincoln and Isaac Onstot, the eldest son, were friends and often studied together here by the light of the fire kindled by the cooper's shavings.

Historic New Salem State Park is located near Petersburg on Highways 97 and 123 about 17 miles northwest of Springfield, Illinois.

IRA E. OWEN, THE WAGON WHEEL INN, PETERSBURG, ILL.

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New Salem State Park,
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